## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

*Please replace paragraph 0009 of the specification with the following amended paragraph.*

All time synchronized CDMA base station sectors ~~(cells)~~ transmit the same repeating pseudorandom number (PN) sequence of codes. IN IS-95 for example, the repeating PN sequence is comprised of five hundred twelve (512) "64 chip" PN codes. IN IS-95 CDMA, a "chip" refers to a unit of time approximately 0.8 microseconds (μs) long. A "chip" is the finest resolution of time in IS-95 CDMA. Sixty four (64) "chips" is the approximate time it takes to transmit one PN code (i.e. approximately 51.2 μs). Since there are 512 such PN codes in IS-95, it takes approximately 26.2 milliseconds (MS) to transmit the entire PN sequence. This sequence is continuously retransmitted by each sector in the network but with different PN (time) offsets.

*Please replace paragraph 0010 of the specification with the following amended paragraph.*

Each sector ~~(cell)~~ is assigned a time offset that is intended to uniquely identify the serving sector's pilot signal by changing the phase (timing) of its repeating PN sequence. Global Positioning System satellites provide time synchronization of the PN sequences transmitted by all sectors ~~(cells)~~ in the network. The time offsets are "correct" when the PN sequences received by the mobile unit (e.g., cellular telephone) from multiple sectors ~~(cells)~~ are orthogonal (i.e., out of phase with respect to each other). The orthogonality of PN codes ensures the mobile unit is able to extract the serving sector's ~~(cell's)~~ signals from signals received from all other sectors ~~(cells)~~. This provides the basis for the ability to use the same frequency in every sector throughout a CDMA network.

*Please replace paragraph 0011 of the specification with the following amended paragraph.*

Time offsets are "incorrect" when PN sequence orthogonality is lost. This often occurs because of different RF signal propagation delays inherent in the transmission of radio frequencies between multiple sectors to a mobile. For instance as radio frequency signal propagates from a base station to a mobile unit, the signal incurs a time delay. This time delay 'shifts' (in time) the time offsets or phase of the PN sequences received

by mobile units from sectors ~~(cells)~~ surrounding the primary sector/cell (e.g., the cell in which the mobile unit is presently disposed). Because a mobile unit is generally positioned at different distances from surrounding sectors (cells)(, the received PN sequences are time shifted by different amounts. Orthogonality can be lost when the PN sequences from two or more sectors appear to the mobile to have the same delay or phase and are therefore indistinguishable and thus 'collide.'

*Please replace paragraph 0012 of the specification with the following amended paragraph.*

The simplest example of a 'collision' occurs when a sector's ~~(cell's)~~ time offset assignment is only one (1) PN offset (e.g., approximately 64 "chips", or 52 μs) ahead of the serving sector, and the sector's ~~(cell's)~~ PN sequence is delayed by 1 PN offset (e.g. 52 μs) due to propagation delay to the mobile. In such a circumstance, the mobile unit cannot distinguish between the serving sector's ~~(cell's)~~ PN sequence and the PN sequence of the sector ~~(cell)~~ causing a 'collision.' Occurrence of a collision renders both sectors unusable for some period of time.

*Please replace paragraph 0014 of the specification with the following amended paragraph.*

PILOT INC is a system parameter that creates delay within PN sequences by not using all PN offsets. IN IS-95 for example, there are 512 PN codes in the PN sequence. PILOT INC is an integer so that only 512/PILOT INC unique time offsets are assigned to sectors ~~(cells)~~ before they have to be reused (reassigned). For example, for a PILOT INC of 8, the assignable time-offsets are 0, 8, 16, ...512, and the time offsets between offset assignments are unused (e.g. not assignable). Larger values of PILOT INC add greater delay between PN offset assignments because more of the PN offsets are unused. The conventional engineering practice is to use larger PILOT INCs to avoid collisions.

*Please replace paragraph 0017 of the specification with the following amended paragraph.*

The present invention makes assignable all the PN offsets allowed by the standard by setting PILOT INC to 1. For IS-95, all 512 offsets within the standard are now assignable. Rather than using a large PILOT INC (e.g., N=7) to create fixed delay between PN offset assignments (e.g. 0, 8, 16, etc.), the present invention creates variable

delay between PN offset assignments through the careful selection of PN offsets with respect to the location of sectors ~~(cells)~~ within the CDMA network. Collisions are avoided in nearby sectors by choosing PN offsets that are just offset or delayed enough in time to avoid collisions. For sectors further apart, PN offset assignments are chosen from the maximum pool of 512 in the case of IS-95, with greater delay offsets than in nearby sectors but with just enough delay. Finally, for those sectors far enough apart where collisions are rendered harmless, the already assigned PN offsets can be reassigned. Thus, it is possible to more efficiently utilize PN offsets by first expanding the assignable pool up to the maximum allowed by the standard (512 in IS-95) and use variable delay offsets to be able to assign more of them unconstrained by PILOT INC. The Figure shows one such embodiment. Since all MSCs support any fixed value of PILOT INC, no software changes are required.